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| Review: Age of Exploration |  | Local Account Data:Users:hknight:Desktop:boat1.gif |
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| Overview Long-distance maritime travel had a long history before the pioneering voyages that began in the late fifteenth century. The oceanic voyages of the 1400 to 1550 period, however, produced radically new information. First, mariners proved that there was open water to the south of Africa and that Europe could be linked to Asia by sailing east. Second, by sailing west to try to reach Asia, they discovered the Americas, two continents that peoples of Afroeurasia had previously not known about. And third, they demonstrated that the western Atlantic was not land-locked, that there was open water to the south of the Americas leading to the Pacific, and that Asia could indeed be reached directly from Europe as well as from the Americas by sailing west.  The new sea routes discovered became increasingly busy channels of communication between continents and countries. Across these routes passed, by conscious intent or not, people, goods, plants, animals, technologies, ideas, and diseases. Contacts multiplied over a wider range of ecosystems, involving more and more diverse peoples. The advantages of this situation increasingly became slanted towards Europeans, though the process was gradual and did not become full-fledged until well beyond 1550.  The development of our contemporary world of international organizations, multinational corporations, [globalization](javascript:void(0);) and both the spread of and resistance to European cultural ideas and institutions, was heavily influenced by what happened during this period of long-distance maritime exploration and encounter. Key Questions  * Why and how did mariners undertake long-distance oceanic voyages both east and west between the 14thc and early 16thc centuries? * How, and with what results, did Spain and Portugal turn the search for new sea routes into a grasp for empire in the sixteenth century? * How did ideas about what the world look like change? * What was the impact of exploration? * Were God, Glory and Gold the main aims of explorers? * Did Guns, Germs and Steel aid the success of explorers? |  | Key People Magellan  Columbus  Zheng He  Prince Henry the Navigator  Da Gama Please note that you mainly need detailed knowledge of the explorer of your choice.***Don’t Forget:*** *This is an overview not a definitive list! You must review your own work. There is LOTS of information on our class wikispace www.acsworldhistoryone.wikispaces.com including review games, class powerpoints and some of the handouts we have used in class. You MUST also use your textbook (Patterns of Integration) for reference and review.* |